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# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SUEZ WATER NEW JERSEY INC.

# NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES BPU Docket No. WR20110729 OAL Docket No. PUC 10966-2020

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on November 23, 2020, the Petitioner, SUEZ Water New Jersey Inc. ("SWNJ" or "Company"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and other relevant statutes and regulations, filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") of the State of New Jersey for approval of an increase in its base rates for water and sewer service. The Company is requesting an overall increase in water revenues of \$35,450,181 or approximately 12.00% above the annual level of revenues for the post-test year period ending March 31, 2021. The Company believes that the increase is necessary in order for it to be able to continue to provide safe, adequate and proper service to its customers and to prevent the impairment of its financial integrity.

The proposed base rates for all customers are contained in the tariff sheets and petition filed with the Board. The present and proposed rates for monthly billing for General Metered Service (Former New Jersey) are as follows:

# **COMPARISON OF PRESENT AND PROPOSED BASE RATES**

Consumption and monthly facilities charges have been revised as follows:

#### **General Metered Service:**

## Rate Schedule 1

rom: Debra Visconti

### Service Area No.1 (Former New Jersey)

Fixed Monthly Service Charge					
Size of Meter	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	\$ Increase		
5/8"	\$15.95	\$19.50	\$3.55		
3/4"	23.93	29.25	5.32		
1"	39.88	48.75	8.87		
1-1/2"	79.75	97.50	17.75		
2"	127.60	156.00	28.40		
3"	239.25	292.50	53.25		
4"	398.75	487.50	88.75		
6"	797.50	975.00	177.50		
8"	1,276.00	1,560.00	284.00		
10"	1,834.25	2,242.50	408.25		
12"	2,631.75	3,217.50	585.75		

Service Area No. 1 (Former New Jersey)

Consumption	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	\$ Increase
Hundred Cubic Feet	\$4.2439	\$5.0009	\$0.76
Thousand Gallons	5.6737	6.6857	1.01

Average Monthly Bill using 9 CCF or 6,732 gallons

<b>Present Rates</b>	Proposed Rates	\$ Increase
\$54.15	\$64.51	\$10.36

A tax credit of 1.60% will be applied to all customer bills which will reduce the bill.

The Company is proposing an increase of 12.00% for Private Fire Protection for Service Area No.1 (Former New Jersey).

The Company is not proposing any increase for Public Fire Protection.

Any relief determined by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers of the Company in such manner and, in such amounts or percentages, as the Board may deem appropriate. The Board may choose to impose a greater portion of the increase on any present or future class or classes, group or groups of customers, may exclude from any increase any of the foregoing, or may vary the amount of percentage increase applicable to any of the foregoing.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the Company may implement, subject to any refunds that may be ordered by the Board, the proposed tariff for service on and after September 1, 2021 if the Board has not finally determined a just and reasonable tariff schedule prior to that date.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing on the Company's petition has been scheduled for March 4, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. As a result of the COVID Pandemic, this public hearing will take place via Zoom. If you desire to participate in the Zoom public hearing go to website: zoom.us/join Meeting Id. 890 5286 4906 Passcode: 549859, or go to the Company's website www.mysuezwater.com for a link. An Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Law will preside over the public hearing. Members of the public are invited to attend and express their views on the proposed rate increase. Such comments will be made a part of the final record in the proceeding. Written comments may be submitted to the Hon. Irene Jones, Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Law, 33 Washington St, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102; and/or the Hon. Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary, Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350. Email comments should be submitted to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov. Written and emailed comments will be provided the same weight as statements made at hearings. Please include OAL Docket Number PUC 10966-2020, Agency Docket Number WR20110729 in your comment letter.

The complete schedules for the proposed rates are part of the petition filed with the Board, which was served upon the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel. A notice of the filing of this proceeding was also served on the Clerk of the municipalities in the service areas of SWNJ. Further information and copies of the petition may be obtained on the Board's website, https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/ or on the Company's website, www.mysuezwater.com.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for special accommodations, including interpreters, at least 72 hours prior to this hearing to Stephen B. Genzer, Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, LLP, phone number 973-286-6700.

SUEZ WATER NEW JERSEY 461 From Road, Suite 400 Paramus, NJ 07652